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Jonas Gilman Clark.

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*From*

*Mrs. Jonas Gilman Clark.*

*Worcester, Mass.*





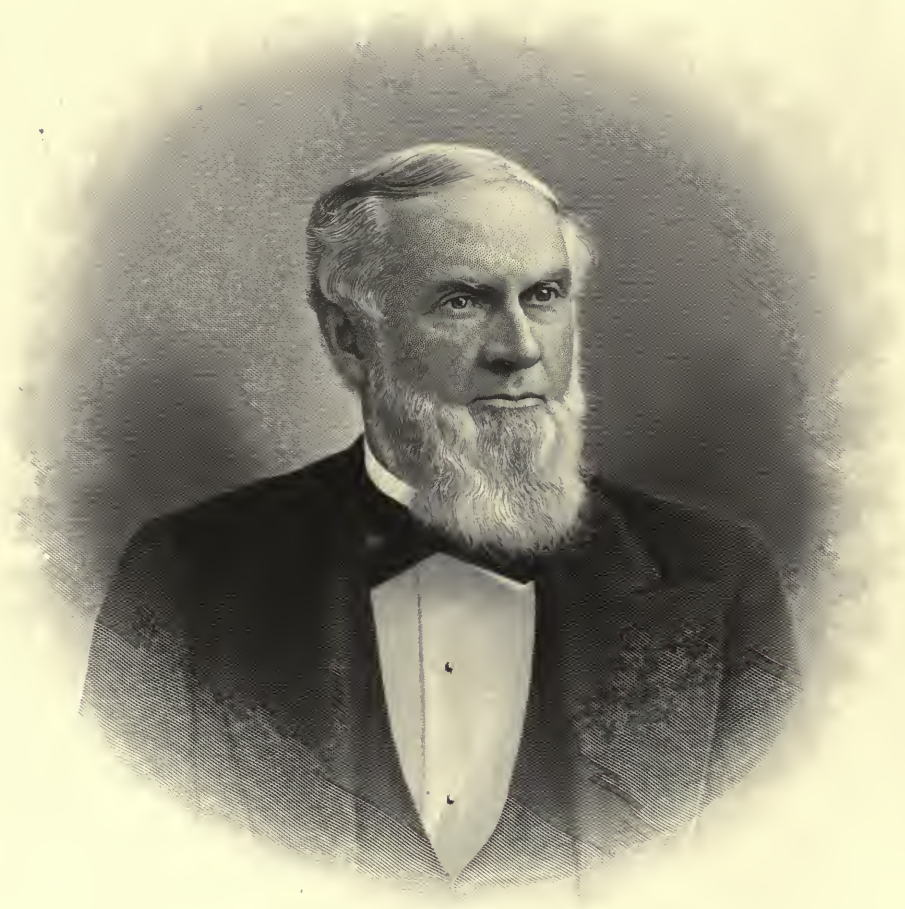


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*Jonas G. Clark*

Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.



In Memoriam.

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Jonas Gilman Clark.



Born February 1st, 1815.

Died May 23d, 1900.

Clark, Susan Wright.



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These passing tributes are here gathered in affectionate remembrance of my husband, and in loyal recognition of more than three-score years of close companionship with the high resolve and steadfast devotion to the achievement which crowned his life-work.

Posterity is his heir, and his most enduring memorial the far-reaching influence of the University he has founded.

Susan Wright Clark.

Worcester, Massachusetts,

November 1st, 1900.



Biographical.



**J**onas Gilman Clark was born at Hubbardston, Mass., on the first of February, 1815, and died in the city of Worcester on the 23d day of May, 1900. His early life was devoted to the acquisition of a fortune, and his later to the wise and intelligent study of the needs of his country along the lines of higher scientific education. The result was the founding and endowing, while he was yet living, of the institution at Worcester which bears his name, Clark University. This put him in the rank of those noble public benefactors whose munificence coming generations will enjoy, and from which great advantages will accrue to the individual, and inestimable blessings to the country and the world.

Mr. Clark was, in the best sense of the word, a man of the people. He descended through a long line of ancestors, intelligent and worthy, who had developed high ideas of the duty of citizenship in a republic like ours, and notions of the responsibilities of wealth which result in the large philanthropies so characteristic of the section of the country in which he was born and reared.

Mr. Clark could well be said to be a native product of our soil and truly be called an American of Americans. He was in the eighth generation of his family in this country, being a

lineal descendant of Hugh and Elizabeth Clark, who were among the first settlers at Watertown, Mass.

Hugh Clark, who is set down in the early annals as a "husbandman," crossed the Atlantic with his good wife from England, the land of their birth, and threw in his lot with that little band of pure-minded and stout-hearted men and women who sought in the new world that liberty of conscience and freedom of worship denied them by the state and church polity of the mother country. From Watertown he migrated to Roxbury, where, in 1660, he was made a freeman, and in 1666 became a member of the Artillery Company. He died there in 1693, being then about 80 years of age.

His son John, born in Watertown in 1641, received from his father a property embracing some sixty-seven acres of land in Newton, Mass., upon which he erected a saw-mill, the first built upon the banks of the Charles River. He died in 1695. His son, Isaac Clark, was a land owner in Framingham and Hopkinton, Mass. John Clark, son of Isaac, born in 1730, settled at Hubbardston, Mass., about the year he became of age, and attained a leading position in that community by holding the rank of captain in the militia and being chosen at various times to fill nearly every civil office in the gift of the town.

Warmly espousing the cause of the Colonists against the mother country, he was chosen a delegate to the first Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, in 1774, and during the Revolution furnished supplies to the Continental Army. In the local histories he is frequently mentioned in connection with public events, and is always referred to as a man of probity and virtue

and an orthodox and practical Christian. His son, William Clark of Hubbardston, a farmer of some property, high social standing and excellent character, was a member of Capt. William Marean's company that marched to Lexington in April, 1775, and later he was a member of Captain Wheeler's company in Colonel Doolittle's regiment. He was the father of William Smith Clark, born January 22d, 1784. The latter married Elizabeth, daughter of Lieut. Samuel Clark of Hubbardston, Mass., on May 22d, 1803, and was the father of Jonas Gilman Clark, the subject of this biographical notice.

The son of a farmer of independent means and blessed with a mother who came of a good family, and was more than commonly endowed with the virtues of her sex, he began life under auspicious conditions. From his earliest years he was noted for his thoroughness and progressive views, and for a certain self-reliance which was shown by his refusal to make any draft upon the small estate left to him by his mother, beyond the price of a Doré Bible, which remained to the day of his death a valued keepsake. As a school boy he made good use of his opportunities, and by the time he was ready to engage in bread-winning he was the possessor of a good English education, had a keen appreciation of the value of knowledge and was disposed to enlighten himself still further by employing his leisure to that end rather than to waste it in selfish indulgence. Selecting the trade of carriage building as a vocation, he mastered it thoroughly and then opened a shop of his own. Later he engaged in the manufacture and sale of general hardware, as the phrase was then understood, to which he added

household furniture, for the successful conduct of which he first erected suitable buildings, and later established depots or stores for the sale of his products at Lowell and Milford in Massachusetts.

During the fateful years of the anti-slavery movement in New England previous to 1853, and while he was yet a resident of Massachusetts, Mr. Clark was an early and earnest sympathizer with the cause and its leaders, many of the latter being his familiar friends and frequent guests at his home.

While absolutely devoid of political ambition, he was a consistent patriot all the days of his life, and his abiding faith in the republic was energetically attested both in California, during the critical period at the outbreak of the Civil War, and later by the hazard of his fortune on the credit and stability of the National Government throughout the long years of financial gloom and uncertainty which followed.

Progressive and enterprising beyond most men, he made rapid strides in the accumulation of a fortune, and was generally regarded and always spoken of as one who had the happy faculty of transmuting everything he touched into gold. Upon the discovery of this precious metal in California, he was quick to perceive the possibilities of trade on the Pacific slope, and, relinquishing his Eastern business, embarked in a general supply business, or the "California trade," as it was then called, and with his partner in this venture, Mr. George B. Wilbur of Hubbardston, who accompanied him to California in the early "fifties," he laid the foundation of his fortune through dealing in miners' supplies.

Upon returning to the Atlantic coast he engaged in business

in New York City, and during the Civil War and reconstruction period made large transactions in government securities, with the result of greatly augmenting his fortune. Later, he invested heavily in real estate in Boston and New York, netting large profit from its judicious purchase and sale. In 1875 he disposed of his residence on Fifth Avenue, New York, but, desiring to maintain a home in the metropolis, he soon after purchased another site on Seventy-second Street, near the Lenox Library, which, upon his removal from the city, he sold for half a million.

The contiguity of Worcester, Mass., to his birthplace and social ties formed in early life, and its central location, as the "Heart of the Commonwealth," led Mr. Clark to select it as the place of his permanent residence, and in 1881 he built on Elm Street a large and costly mansion of granite which he and his wife occupied as their home in Worcester, although of recent years it was Mr. Clark's custom to spend the winter season in New York City. He made considerable purchases of real estate in Worcester, and built there one of the largest and handsomest blocks on Main Street, the central and leading business thoroughfare, and also another fine block on Front Street. A true bibliophile, Mr. Clark gratified his tastes in this direction almost without limit. His private library is unusually large and valuable, and, besides being rich in its several departments, contains what is probably the finest collection in Massachusetts, outside of a public institution, of early manuscripts and choice old first editions.

But while indulging his own scholarly tastes, Mr. Clark was always keenly conscious of the responsibilities of wealth. Years

ago when his fortune had already assumed large proportions, he began to give grave thoughts to this question of stewardship. The pure philanthropy of his nature demanded expression so soon as it became possible, and found it in the gift to his native town of Hubbardston, Mass., of a handsome public building for a library, which also includes a post-office and rooms for the town offices, substantially constructed of brick and granite, comparing favorably with any town edifice for similar purposes in the country. To render this generous gift immediately effective, he filled the shelves of the library with a well-chosen collection of books, numbering in excess of two thousand volumes. The thanks of the officials of the town and the appreciation of its inhabitants were an ample reward; but beyond these was the consciousness of a self-imposed duty well performed and the realization of the usefulness of the means employed in stimulating interest and ripening faculties which for want of the opportunity presented might possibly never be aroused or developed.

But like that other great friend of humanity, Ezra Cornell, the large-hearted and noble-minded founder of Cornell University, who similarly began his philanthropies by founding a beautiful and useful public library, Mr. Clark found this only a beginning of his public usefulness. Like Cornell, he sought for a larger and wider field in which he might use a substantial part of his great and growing fortune to the lasting advantage of his country and possibly of the whole world.

His experience as a business man made him intensely practical and may be said to have colored his views, for it appears that



one of the first things borne in upon his mind when he began to study the field was the thoroughness of the scientific training given abroad, notably in the universities of Germany. It became evident to him that this kind of training was of high value not only to the individuals to whom it was given and to the country in which it was practised, but also to the world at large. To see for himself was the next step, and being a somewhat self-contained man, he said nothing concerning the projects already ripening in his brain, but arranging his affairs so as to allow long intervals for travel and observation, he gave the leisure of eight years to visiting the leading foreign institutions of learning, old and new; and to gathering and reading their records. "These studies centred about the means by which the highest culture of one generation is best transmitted to the ablest youths of the next, and especially about the external conditions most favorable for increasing the sum of human knowledge." The culmination of these observations and studies was a resolve to found a university in America to be devoted "to the improvement of these means and the enlargement of these conditions," a resolve than which it would be almost impossible to conceive one higher or nobler.

Mr. Clark began operations early in 1887 by the purchase of a site for the proposed university in Worcester, Mass., that city being chosen by the founder after mature deliberation: "First, because its location is central among the best colleges of the East, and by supplementing rather than duplicating their work, he hopes to advance all their interests and secure their good will and active support; that, together, further steps may be

taken in the development of superior education in New England; and, secondly, because he believes the culture of the city will insure that enlightened public opinion indispensable in maintaining these educational standards at their highest, and that its wealth will insure the perpetual increase of revenue required by the rapid progress of science." As the first positive step toward the realization of his plans, Mr. Clark invited eight leading citizens of Worcester to constitute with himself a Board of Trustees.

Following is a list of their names: Stephen Salisbury, president of the American Antiquarian Society; Hon. Charles Devens, ex-attorney-general of the United States and a Justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts; Hon. George F. Hoar, LL.D., United States Senator; William W. Rice, LL.D., a member of Congress; Dr. Joseph Sargent, a physician of eminence; Hon. John D. Washburn, former U. S. Minister to Switzerland; Frank P. Goulding, a member of the Worcester county bar, and George Swan, also a member of the bar and of the Worcester school board. A charter granting full university privileges and confirming the name selected, Clark University, "in recognition of the munificence of the originator and founder, as shown by the endowment of one million dollars and probably more should the community exhibit substantial evidence of its sympathy, encouragement and support," was obtained on petition from the Massachusetts legislature in 1887; and on October 22d of that year the corner-stone of the institution was laid by Mr. and Mrs. Clark in the presence of a large concourse of people. In his address on the occasion, Mr. Clark said:

"We have assembled at this time to participate in the observance of a most pleasing and agreeable rite, the laying of the corner-stone of the first building to be erected for the use of a new university; and although we may all fail to realize the fact that a university as such, fully organized and equipped in every respect for doing the work of such an institution, cannot be called into existence at once by the fiat of any human agency, but that it must be the result of gradual growth extending over a period of many years, we are taking the initial steps in the foundation of an institution which we believe, without a doubt or a fear, will in the time to come realize our most sanguine hopes.

"Broad in its scope, liberal in its methods, and comprehensive in its teachings, it must of necessity prove a powerful instrument in promoting the higher education and fuller development of the intellectual faculties of our people. Being placed, as we propose it shall be, in charge of the wisest and most accomplished scholars of the day in several departments of science, literature, and art, those seeking to avail themselves of its advantages will be brought in close relations with the best thought and most profound wisdom of the world and age. We are glad to be able to contribute to the foundation of such an institution, the work and mission of which will be the culture and elevation of a great and rapidly growing people. We shall watch its progress with the deepest interest and the most solicitous regard. We therefore, here and now, dedicate this university to science, letters, art, and human progress, in their best and most valuable forms, and may the Giver of all good crown its efforts and the labors with His constant and abundant blessing."

Within two years after the charter had been obtained, a "plain, substantial, and well-appointed central building, 204 by 114 feet, four stories high, and with superior facilities for heating, lighting, and ventilation," was completed. It was built of brick and granite, and finished throughout in oak. A laboratory build-

ing, containing about 50 rooms, and designed after consulting noted experts and the plans of the most approved European structures, was subsequently completed. The foundations of a still larger department building were also laid, to provide for future expansion. In the spring of 1888, G. Stanley Hall, Ph.D., then a professor in Johns Hopkins University, was invited to the presidency of Clark University. Although in an institution, to quote his own words, "which, in less than fifteen years of its existence, has done a work in stimulating other institutions and in advancing the highest standard, which was beyond comparison in the recent history of higher education in this country," he saw the opportunity at Clark "to be so great for a further and at least no less epoch-making step," that he accepted the invitation.

As a preparation for the new work he was sent to Europe and spent a year there in studying educational institutions and methods, visiting every country except Portugal and seeking information from every source. Equipped by the knowledge thus gleaned he hastened home and on October 2d, 1889, the buildings being nearly ready for occupancy, the university was formally opened. Several thousand persons attended, among them being a number of notabilities, including leading officials, well-known scientists and many members of the professions. Gen. Charles Devens presided and made the opening speech, in the course of which, after paying high compliments to President Hall, he said:—"The moment of commencing a great enterprise, if one of hope, is one of anxiety also. Of those to whom much is given much is rightfully required. We have received from the founder

of the university a most generous gift, the good effect of which, if wisely used, will be felt long after the grass grows green above each one of us. It has been supplemented by those provisions made by himself and his estimable and honored wife, which by means of fellowships open wide the gates of the university to those of narrow means. In all that has been done it has been the wish of the trustees to keep themselves in communication with the best thought, the noblest feeling, the highest aspirations of the age in which we live."

The next address was by Mr. Clark, who referred to the inception of the plan and purposes of the institution in the following words:

"When we first entered upon our work it was with a well-defined plan and purpose, in which plan and purpose we have steadily persevered, turning neither to the right nor to the left. We have wrought upon no vague conceptions nor suffered ourselves to be borne upon the fluctuating and unstable current of public opinion or public suggestions. We started upon our career with the determinate view of giving to the public all the benefits and advantages of a university, comprehending full well what that implies, and feeling the full force of the general understanding that a university must, to a large degree, be a creation of time and experience. We have, however, boldly assumed as the foundation of our institution the principles, the tests, and the responsibilities of universities as they are everywhere recognized, but without making any claim for the prestige or favor which age imparts to all things.

"It has, therefore, been our purpose to lay our foundation broad, and strong, and deep. In this we must necessarily lack the simple element of years. We have what we believe to be more valuable, the vast storehouse of the knowledge and learning which have been accumulating for the centuries that have gone before

us, availing ourselves of the privileges of drawing from this source, open to all alike. We propose to go to further and higher achievements. We propose to put into the hands of those who are members of the university, engaged in its several departments, every facility which money can command, to the extent of our ability, in the way of apparatus and appliances that can in any way promote our object in this direction. To our present departments we propose to add others from time to time, as our means shall warrant and the exigencies of the university shall seem to demand, always taking those first whose domain lies nearest to those already established, until the full scope and purpose of the university shall have been accomplished.

“These benefits and advantages thus briefly outlined, we propose placing at the service of those who from time to time seek in good faith and honesty of purpose to pursue the study of science in its purity and to engage in scientific research and investigation—to such they are offered as far as possible, free from all trammels and hindrances, without any religious, political, or social tests. All that will be required of any applicant will be evidence, disclosed by examinations or otherwise, that his attainments are such as to qualify him for the position which he seeks.”

The formal address of the day was then delivered by President Hall, who was followed by Senator George F. Hoar, the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, and Hon. John D. Washburn. The first named gave a scholarly presentation of the need of higher education in pure science, prefixing his discourse by an historical reference to the university and its founder which may properly be quoted here as an authentic statement of facts. On this point President Hall said:

“Our history begins more than twenty years ago in the plans of a reticent and sagacious man, whose leave we cannot here await to speak of, who in affluence maintains the simple and regular

mode of life inbred in the plain New England home of his boyhood ; plans that have steadily grown with his fortune and that have been followed and encouraged with an eager and growing interest, which extended to even minor items, by the devoted companion of his life. Besides a large fund already placed to our account, he has given his experience and unremitting daily care, worth to us large sums in economies and resulting in well-appointed buildings and a solidity of materials and a thoroughness of workmanship which, I believe, are without a parallel of their cost and kind in the country.

“Not only in the multifarious work of the university office, its methods of estimates, orders, bookkeeping, of individual accountability for all books, apparatus, supplies, and furniture, but in the larger questions of university polity without, and effective administration within, in the definition of duty for each officer, the strict subordination and the concentration of authority and responsibility sure to appeal to all who have the instinct of discipline, and which are exceptionally needful where the life of science is to be so free and the policy so independent ; in the express exemption, too, of all instructors who can sustain the ardor of research from excessive teaching and examination, in the appointment of assistants in a way to keep each member of the staff at his best work, and to avoid the too common and wasteful practice in American universities of letting four-thousand dollar men do four-hundred dollar work ; in the ample equipment of each department that no force be lost on inferior tools ; in all these and in many other respects the ideal of our founder has been to make everywhere an independent application of the simplest and severest, but also the largest principles of business economy.

“As business absorbs more and more of the talent and energy of the world, its consideration more and more pervading if not subordinating, whether for better or worse, not only the arts, the school, the press, but all departments of church and state, making peace and war, cities or deserts, so science is slowly pervading and profoundly modifying literature, philosophy, education, religion, and every domain of culture. Both at their best have

dangers and are severe schools of integrity. The directness, simplicity, certainty, and absorption in work so characteristic of both are setting new fashions in manners and even in morals, and bringing man into closer contact with the world as it is. Both are binding the universe together into new unities and imposing a discipline ever severer for body and mind. When their work, purified of deceit and error, is finished the period of history we now call modern will be rounded to completeness; culture will have abandoned much useless luggage; the chasm between instruction and education will be less disastrous, and all the highest and most sacred of human ideals will not be lost or dimmed, but will become nearer and more real.

"When one who has graduated with highest honors from this vigorous school of business, after spending eight years of travel abroad studying the means by which knowledge and culture, the most precious riches of the race, are increased and transmitted, and finding no reason why our country, which so excels in business, should be content with the second best in science, devotes to its services not only his fortune at the end of his life, but years yet full of exceptional and unabated energy, we see in such a fact not only the normal, complete, if you please, post-graduate ethical maturity of an individual business life, but also a type and promise of what wealth now seems likely to do for higher education in America. It is no marvel that our foundation has already been so often, so conspicuously and so favorably noted in authoritative ways and places in an European land where, if monarchy should yield to a republic, university culture could not penetrate its people as it now does. It is thus a more typical and vital product of the national life at its best than are foundations made by state or church in which to train their servants.

"In thus giving his fortune to a single highest end as sagaciously and actively as he has acquired it, may our founder find a new completeness of life in age, which Cicero did not know, and taste

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—'all the joy that lies  
In a full self-sacrifice.'"

As a synopsis of his well-spent life, his generosity and noble devotion to the cause of the higher knowledge and of human progress, this presentation by Dr. Hall is so admirable that it leaves but little further to be said. "When the purpose of Mr. Clark was first announced," said Senator Hoar, speaking on the occasion referred to above, "there were many people who thought it would have been better to enlarge the resources of some existing college. But as his plans have gradually unfolded, such critics have become satisfied, not only that this university can do its work without jar or friction with any other, but that the time has come when a work should be done in this country which it may not be wholly convenient for any other just now to undertake."

In the decade that has passed since these words were spoken not only has criticism upon Mr. Clark's act been absolutely silenced, but recognition of it has become general. "The Register and Tenth Official Announcement" of the university shows a group of five closely related departments in admirable working order—namely, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Psychology, to the last named of which a sub-department on Pedagogy has recently been added. There is, in addition, a library containing about 17,000 bound volumes and 1500 pamphlets, and receiving for its reading-room about 200 journals.

The decennial celebration of the University which closed July 10th, 1899, was made memorable by the presence of distinguished *savans* from the leading universities of Europe as well as America, and was the occasion of heartiest congratulation from many and eminent sources, a summary of which found expression in the address of Dr. G. Stanley Hall, a brief abstract of which follows:

"No time in the history of the country could have been more favorable than the beginning of this period for a great and new university foundation. The epoch-making work of the Johns Hopkins University, for the preceding decade, had made Baltimore the brightest spot on the educational map of the country. The significance of the work of that institution can hardly be overestimated. But financial clouds had already begun to threaten this great Southern luminary, and there were indications that if the great work it had begun was to be carried on, parts of it at least must be transplanted to new fields. It was at this crisis that our munificent founder entered the field with the largest single gift ever made to education in New England, and one of the largest in the world, with the offer of more to come if sufficient co-operation was forthcoming.

"He selected Worcester as the site of his great enterprise with a loyalty to the region of his nativity worthy of the greatest respect and emulation, and in addition to the fulfilment of his pledges gave it the benefit of his own previous wide studies of education in Europe, and contributed wisely matured plans and constant personal oversight and labor for years. It is as strenuously engaged in this highest of all human endeavors that the world knows him, and that we shall remember him, and I am sure that we all unite to-day, first of all, in sending him in the retirement his ill-health demands (although it cannot assuage his interest to see the work of his hands prosper) our most cordial greetings and our most hearty congratulations."

Mr. Clark married, October 6th, 1836, Miss Susan Wright, of Hubbardston, Mass. This noble woman has earnestly supplemented her husband's work by founding scholarships and fellowships, to be known as the Mrs. Jonas G. Clark fellowships and scholarships, respectively, and in accord with her spirit, Mr. Clark himself likewise founded a number of scholarships during his life.

## Obituary.



**The Last Rites.**—Simplicity and dignity, which so well accorded with the life and character of the late Jonas Gilman Clark, characterized the last honors to the dead, the public benefactor whose life-work has crowned Worcester and extended her fame the world over.

A distinguished and representative gathering of citizens from the city he had blest by his benefactions, and from other places where he had won love and respect by his life of industry, integrity, and benevolence, assembled on the afternoon of May 26th, to pay the last public tribute of affection and esteem at the funeral services held at his home, 39 Elm Street, Worcester, Mass.

In compliance with Mr. Clark's expressed wish, the services were very simple and without ostentation of any sort.

There was the gathering of friends and business associates, prominent citizens of Worcester and other cities, professors, instructors, and students at Clark University, and the customary services of the church.

The services were conducted by Rev. Calvin Stebbins, former pastor of the Church of the Unity, of which Mr. Clark was a member, assisted by Rev. Frank L. Phalen, the present pastor.

The casket rested in the large central reception-room, near

the main staircase, at the foot of which the two clergymen stood and uttered their words of comfort and consolation.

The Scripture reading was by Rev. Mr. Phalen. Rev. Mr. Stebbins offered prayer, and then gave an appreciative address on Mr. Clark's life, character, and achievements.

At the committal service at the grave Rev. Mr. Stebbins offered a short prayer. The burial was in Rural Cemetery.

The honorary bearers were: Dr. G. Stanley Hall, president of Clark University; Senator George F. Hoar, Stephen Salisbury, Dr. Thomas H. Gage, Dr. William E. Strong, of Clark University, William E. Rice, Dr. Thomas C. Mendenhall, president of Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Mayor Rufus B. Dodge, Jr., Lincoln N. Kinnicutt, and James P. Hamilton.

Address.



## Address of the Rev. Calvin Stebbins,

A former minister of the Church of the Unity, Worcester, Mass.

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Nothing appears so transitory and fleeting as the life of man when compared with the apparent permanence of his surroundings. Indeed his most enduring works, which long survive the builder, are a matter of yesterday when compared with a geological epoch.

The brevity of human life has been the theme of sermon and song for ages. The Hebrew preacher tells us very mournfully that "the generations of men come and go, but the earth abideth forever," and a modern poet makes the brook sing in triumph as it hurries on to the ocean:

"Men may come, and men may go,  
But I flow on forever."

But things are not as they seem. There is a sense in which man has something like an earthly immortality. The generations come and go, but they do not take all of themselves with them in their going. They leave something behind them for weal or woe to those who come after them. The possibilities of life in this Western world are great, and ever and anon comes a man

of power who illustrates this principle, leaves a benediction to the world and makes an impression upon intellectual and moral life, which goes ringing down through the shifting scenes of time and the coming and going generations of men.

A diffident and reticent boy in one of our country towns begins life as a hard worker at a hard trade. He becomes interested in his work and his experience widens his thought. His judgment leads him into new branches of business and into wider fields of action. He becomes, in time, a thoroughly equipped man of business who does not shrink from great transactions and who understands the influences that affect the rise and fall of real property in the market.

By honorable and straightforward means and sound judgment he acquires what men call a fortune. It is a great thing to have acquired a fortune. It is the measure of so much toil and frugality and self-sacrifice. But over and beyond this there has been growing a sense of the moral responsibility of wealth. Along with years of patient labor there have been years of patient thought and study. A great ideal had been growing and at last an attempt was made to make it a reality. It is not time yet, and this is not the place to speak of the realization of his long-cherished hope.

The influence of a great institution of learning cannot be estimated any more than you can measure the effect of the sunlight on the trees or field, or weigh the sweet influence of the stars on the mind of a thoughtful beholder. Its influence, like the influence of the great law of gravitation, is silent, but unlike that law it cannot be estimated because it works in the world of minds.

An institution founded on the principles thus far pursued at Clark University comes to the realization of its power and influence, as the Kingdom of God comes to earth, "without any show that it should be watched for." But if the first decade of its existence can be taken as an indication of what is to be in the future, Founder's Day at the end of a century will be a day commemorated not only within academic walls, but wherever a silent worker is endeavoring to read in the great manuscript of God, which we call nature, and in that more wonderful book of human nature.

Mr. Clark's generosity was along great lines. With him frugality was the mother of munificence, and he held himself, whatever may have been his private feelings, steadily to one purpose, and that purpose was a great one fraught with incalculable benefits. He was a man who had high ideas of moral relations in business and in life. He was very reticent, seldom took others into his confidence, and seldom went into co-operation with other men. He seems to have felt himself strong enough to accomplish any and all of his purposes. He had at all times and everywhere the manners and habits of a gentleman; indeed, his manners were illustrations of his character. He loved to do business and he loved to do it on a large scale, but he did not forget the culture of mind and heart, so often forgotten by business men.

He was a lover of books, and had remarkable judgment in their selection and an exquisite taste for fine bindings. In his handling of books one could see that he felt that, as Milton has said, "a good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life."

He was an industrious and intelligent reader and easily put himself in accord with the great authors.

There are things as well as persons that hold us in life because we love them, and parting with them is hard. Among the very last things Mr. Clark spoke of were his books. It was characteristic, his last thoughts were with the immortals.

He brought to everything that interested him the enthusiasm of a boy as well as the wisdom of a man of affairs. At the breaking out of the rebellion, California was a very doubtful State. He felt the importance of the great principles involved in the issue and gave liberally of his money and devoted all his great powers as an organizer to the cause of the Union, which he felt was sacred.

Mr. Clark has left a splendid record as a business man and a citizen. It is an unsullied record of honesty and personal integrity—of great powers guided by sound judgment, of generosity inspired by the noble purpose of advancing learning for the amelioration of man's estate.

The religious tone and temper of the household is well expressed in a favorite hymn:

“ Behold the western evening light!  
It melts in deepening gloom:  
So calm the righteous sink away,  
Descending to the tomb.

“ The winds breathe low; the yellow leaf  
Scarce whispers from the tree;  
So gently flows the parting breath,  
When good men cease to be,

“ How beautiful, on all the hills,  
The crimson light is shed !  
'Tis like the peace the dying gives  
To mourners round his bed.

“ How mildly, on the wandering cloud,  
The sunset beam is cast !  
So sweet the memory left behind,  
When loved ones breathe their last.

“ And lo ! above the dews of night  
The vesper star appears ;  
So faith lights up the mourner's heart  
Whose eyes are dim with tears.

“ Night falls ; but soon the morning light  
Its glories shall restore :  
And thus the eyes that sleep in death  
Shall wake to close no more.”



## Resolutions.



## The Faculty of Clark University.

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At a meeting of the Faculty of Clark University, May 24th, the following action was taken :

We desire to record our deep sorrow at the death of the founder of the University. His philanthropy, expressed by a gift then larger than any other in the history of education, established here an institution which has so far been unique as devoted solely to graduate work. He has not only taken a deep personal interest in the scientific work of the University in general and in each instructor, but given unremitting personal attention to nearly every detail of the library for which he made special and most liberal provision, and to the grounds and also to the buildings of which he planned and personally directed the construction.

It was also voted :

That the special sympathy of the Faculty be extended to Mrs. Clark, to whom the secretary was instructed to forward a copy of this action.

It was voted :

That all regular exercises of the University be suspended and the flag kept at half mast till after the funeral, and that the building be suitably draped.

WILLIAM E. STORY,

*Secretary of the Faculty.*

## Communication to the Faculty.

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WORCESTER, MASS., May 24th, 1900.

To the Faculty of Clark University:—

Desiring to make an expression of our sympathy for Mrs. Clark in her deep bereavement, because of the death of her husband, and also to pay our tribute to the memory of the man who has done so much for our own and the interests of higher education, we beg to communicate to you the accompanying resolution of the student body and to ask you to transmit to Mrs. Clark our expression in whatever manner and form you may think best.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK B. WILLIAMS,	} <i>Committee.</i>
NORMAN TRIPLETT,	
P. W. SEARCH,	
J. E. IVES,	

## Resolutions of the Students of Clark University on the death of its founder, Mr. Jonas G. Clark.

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Recognizing the high worth of the opportunity conferred on us by the philanthropic enterprise of our university's founder, we, the students of Clark University, desire to express to Mrs. Clark our profound sympathy in this hour of suffering caused by the death of her husband and our friend and benefactor, Mr. Jonas G. Clark.

We also desire to express our deep appreciation of the great value of this university, planned, founded, equipped, and conducted for the higher training of men. To us the university has been full of inspiration and enriching opportunity. It meets our needs in our desire for original investigation, personal association, and higher training.

We take pride in the high position accorded Clark University in the educational circles of the world, and desire to pay our tribute to the memory and worth of the noble man who has made these things possible.

CLARK UNIVERSITY,  
May 24th, 1900.



## **Worcester National Bank.**

**Special Meeting, May 25th, 1900.**

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The following action in regard to the death of Mr. Jonas G. Clark, proposed by the President, Mr. Salisbury, was unanimously adopted :

The Directors of the Worcester National Bank are called upon to meet the loss of one of their number whose large experience and cautious judgment made him useful in a high degree to the policy and standing of the bank. Jonas G. Clark became a director in 1885, in the maturity of his life, accustomed to large operations and with a mind quickened by large acquaintance with the men who have shaped the conduct of events. The position seemed congenial to his tastes, and certainly his associates were much aided by his participation in their action.

The Directors remember the constant urbanity and courtesy of Mr. Clark in all his intercourse with them and with others with whom he was thrown.

The great purpose of his life, the higher education and elevation of man, determined upon at the height of his prosperity and usefulness, led him to seek an opportunity for putting his plan into operation.

By travel and observation Mr. Clark at length decided upon a course of action and devoted his whole thought to this object. The result has been the creation of a university system entirely unique in this country and having little resemblance to any department of institutions of learning of the old world.

The development of this life-work of Mr. Clark took place during his connection with the Worcester National Bank, and it was a source of gratification that one of our number was able to do so much for his time.

The Directors desire to record their sense of personal loss in the companionship of a man of so wide an experience of life, and the hope that the grief of Mrs. Clark may be somewhat assuaged with the reflection that Providence has permitted this happy union to remain unbroken for so many years.

## Public Library Committee.

Hubbardston, Mass.

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*Whereas,* The Wise Ruler of the universe has taken from us our kind friend and benefactor, Jonas Gilman Clark, who erected and presented the beautiful building which is now the home of our public library, and

*Whereas,* His continued interest in the library has from time to time prompted him to confer large gifts of money and books; therefore be it

*Resolved,* That we hereby acknowledge with deep gratitude his numerous bequests with the assurance that his memory will be held by us in highest esteem, with the wish that the building may stand as an enduring monument to his kind generosity;

*Resolved,* That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the widow of the late Mr. Clark, and also spread upon the records of our Association.

J. HARRY ALLEN,	} <i>Library Committee.</i>
WM. H. WHEELER,	
CHARLES GRIMES,	
LOIS E. WARREN,	
GRANVILLE MAREAN,	
ALLEN S. WOODWARD.	

HUBBARDSTON, MASS., May 25th, 1900.

Tributes.



**From the Worcester Spy,**

**May 24th, 1900.**

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Jonas Gilman Clark, whose death occurred at his home on Elm Street last evening, will always be remembered as the founder of the great university that bears his name. His death will be as sincerely mourned in every educational centre of the world as in the community where he has passed the best and brightest years of his life—best in that here he conceived and executed the great purpose of his life, and brightest in that he lived to see its blessings spread around the world.

Mr. Clark was a rare type of New England manhood, self-made, the master of circumstances, and the sole architect of his own fortunes. From his boyhood in Hubbardston through his youth and young manhood, while acquiring and working at his trade of carriage builder, his main characteristic was thoroughness and a determination to excel in whatever he attempted.

In later years he was fond of mildly boasting that he could make any part of a carriage as well or better than any workman he could find. While not a vain man, he believed in himself, in his own purpose, his convictions and his methods. With a masterly grasp of detail, he united a capacity to think broadly

along all lines in which he was interested, and was an apt learner from the failures and successes of others.

Of simple habits, untiring energy, and devotion to business, private and public, and commanding the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact by his firm honesty and uprightness, it was inevitable that he should amass a fortune in comparatively a few years.

Childless and with a keen responsibility attaching to his wealth, it was natural that his thoughts should turn back to Worcester County, his early home. It is well known by those who were near to him that he first planned to build a college in Worcester where Worcester County boys could acquire a college training at less cost and with fewer temptations to the sin of extravagance than in the older and larger institutions of New England.

His later travel and study of foreign institutions, especially universities of Germany, coupled with the strenuous advice of his friends, Andrew D. White of Columbia, President Eliot of Harvard, G. Stanley Hall, and other leaders of thought and education, persuaded him to change his plans and to lay the foundation of a university that should make a post-graduate course in higher education and original research possible without the expense of time and money in foreign lands.

Without dwelling upon the great achievements already accomplished by the university which bears his name and to which five of the foremost representatives of the leading universities of Europe gave their remarkable testimony by their presence at the decennial celebration, last July, it is a matter for rejoicing

that, although not able to take part in the decennial exercises, he watched and noted from his sick-room in Princeton, with growing pleasure and satisfaction, the local recognition of the occasion and the grateful testimony of the press and the foreign visitors, of the record made and the great future promise of the institution he alone had founded and endowed so munificently.

It was his lot to bear with wonderful fortitude great physical suffering during the last months of his life.

There is neither time nor place here for eulogy. The fitting words to close his earthly career yet remain to be spoken by those who shared his thoughts and joined with him in the realization of the purpose to which he so generously and nobly consecrated not only his wealth, but almost his every thought for more than a decade, since the first announcement was made that Jonas G. Clark had given to Worcester a university destined to rival in its own peculiar field the best the world has ever known.

**From the Worcester Evening Gazette,**

**May 24th, 1900.**

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Mr. Clark's achievements are truly remarkable. The accumulation of a great fortune was not of itself so wonderful, for many Americans of his generation were able to rise to equal heights from fully as small beginnings. But the ideals conceived by the man were so lofty as to astound one who realized their origin.

He conceived of a university without a parallel in this country, whose scope and aims were to be wider and higher than it would seem possible for an unprofessional man to comprehend.

He gave his heart and soul, body and mind to the fulfilment of that ideal. He travelled and studied until he had so thorough a grasp of the subject that he astonished the eminent educators with whom he consulted. He realized every detail of the needs of such an institution as he desired to establish.

This thoroughness and energy resulted in the founding of a university which, in the short space of ten years, and hampered by many trying conditions, has taken a position at the forefront of the world's great educational establishments. Its scope is confined to the most recondite study and work. Only a limited number will ever be drawn by its attractions. But such work as

it makes possible is essential to the possession of the greatest amount of knowledge, and the presence in America of such an institution is a constant stimulus to the best intellectual endeavor.

With greater resources the importance of this work can be greatly increased, and with the passing of the years Clark University should move from among the best to the very head of its class.

That is what Jonas G. Clark accomplished; a result not surpassed by any American. Worcester was honored to a great degree in being chosen as the place in which to carry out such a noble plan. The people of Worcester should not forget this, and should always hold in high reverence the memory of the man who did so much and who suffered so much.

**From the Worcester Daily Telegram,**

**May 24th, 1900.**

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Worcester owes its greatest educational institution to Jonas G. Clark.

Clark University is his creation. Mr. Clark had been looking about for a long time to find the best use for his great wealth. The university appealed to him as a great source of good to humanity.

So he studied universities. He went to all modern universities and examined into their methods. He went to the ancient seats of learning, and studied their methods and scope so far as he could, and their libraries. He took deep interest in the books of the ancients and of the scholars of the middle ages. Many such are in his house on Elm Street or stored in safe-deposit vaults. He hit upon the highest possible courses of study and research as the most valuable, and determined the university he was to create should be on the highest plane. It was the result of his visits to Thebes, Heliopolis, Memphis, Alexandria, Jerusalem, Constantinople, and Athens.

Ten years had passed by last year, and the results of the \$2,000,000 invested by Mr. Clark in the University were sub-

stantial dividends in the form of work accomplished for the advancement of science and the sending out into the world of bright and trained men to continue the good work of higher education. The presence of distinguished savants from European universities marked the decennial celebration. Mr. Clark could not himself be present, for his age had already brought with it failing health, and he was physically unable to attend the exercises and see with his own eyes and hear with his own ears what had been accomplished and in what appreciation his good work is held by the men who know best the real fruits of such an educational tree.

**From the Worcester Evening Post,**

**May 24th, 1900.**

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Jonas G. Clark, who died at his palatial residence on Elm Street last evening, aged 85 years, was a genuine type of the American self-made man.

By untiring energy and shrewd business capacity he accumulated a large fortune. Part of this he donated for public purposes prior to his death.

To his native Hubbardston he gave a town hall and public library, which he has endowed. It is to Worcester, however, that Mr. Clark gave his biggest gift. To this city he has been a generous benefactor. Clark University will perpetuate his name, and future generations of Worcester people will remember him gratefully as the founder of an educational institution that is known the world over.

Mr. Clark possessed the strong New England character, which, combined with his native thrift and shrewdness, gave him a breadth of view and ability to achieve and execute, and made him a power and a leader among men. Of great modesty, he was the urbane Christian gentlemen and scholar. His love of learning was a marked characteristic of his nature, and free from all

cant, hypocrisy, or religious prejudice, he believed in the good of mankind. His wish was to elevate and uplift man, and to disseminate human knowledge and make his fellow men happier and wiser, as his wealth directed.

To his broad philanthropy and generosity of heart, Clark University is a monument which will make his name revered for all time, and held in affectionate esteem by the city of Worcester, which has so richly profited by his benefactions.

From Dr. G. Stanley Hall,

President of Clark University.

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The following interview with Dr. Hall appeared in the *Worcester Spy* on the morning following Mr. Clark's death:—

I have been fearing and anticipating this sad event for several weeks, and it is a source of great personal regret. Our associations have been extremely close. Until his illness caused him gradually to withdraw, his interest in the University was keen and earnest.

For more than six months before and during the building of the University I lived at his house. I never saw a man whose whole soul went deeper into an enterprise, or one who showed more self-sacrifice and devotion. He had incubated in private this university scheme, and it was years before he made it known. He planned to make it the chief work of his declining years. His great mastery of practical details was both an education and an inspiration to me. For years hardly a day passed that he did not visit the institution intent upon some improvement in building, grounds, plans, or work.

He selected with rare sagacity his board of trustees, and these gentlemen have ably and devotedly stood by the University in all its vicissitudes. They have had, perhaps it is not improper for me to say, as their leading object the carrying out of his purposes.

In general, Mr. Clark showed singular sagacity in leaving to expert knowledge the educational policy of the University.

Highly as he was respected in Worcester, I have always had the feeling that his best and highest qualities were not as well known as they should be. I am sure that widely as his name and University are known, both will grow and brighten through the coming years.

The University, its plan, material equipment, personnel, prospects, success, lay close to his heart and were carried on his mind incessantly; almost literally I might say day and night.

He was exquisitely sensitive to every breath of critical praise or blame from far and near. He read or heard read probably every word that the Worcester press has printed about the University.

Even the voluminous reports of the Summer School lectures had for him the liveliest interest. He strove, too, to know something of the contents of the big book that we issued in connection with the decennial celebration last summer.

I have heard men of other States who were personally acquainted with Mr. Clark speak of him in the highest terms when discussing his business, charitable, and social relations. I never heard a breath directly or indirectly that did not imply the highest business honor and integrity.

It was natural that a son of Worcester County, after making his fortune, should make this city the home of his last years, and that he should select it as the location of his great university.

I am certain that the grief of the city he sought to honor will not only be general and deep and worthily expressed, but that his name will be cherished here with lasting honor.















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